Statutory Inspection of Anglican & Methodist Schools

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Felton Church of England Primary School

Vision

'Loving, Learning, Living as we journey together, to enable everyone to flourish'

Journeying together, we discover our unique gifts and use them for the benefit of others. We learn to overcome the challenges we face and support one another to be the best that we can be. As in the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:29–37) 'who loved his neighbour as he would himself', we seek to help everyone in our school community to flourish, through loving, learning and living well together.

Felton Church of England Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school and is enabling pupils and adults to flourish. It has the following notable strengths.

Notable Strengths

- The Christian vision is firmly rooted and actively lived out across school life. Leaders, including governors, effectively monitor the impact of the vision. This supports pupils to thrive in their development.
- There are extensive opportunities across the curriculum and enrichment, for pupils to explore the school's shared understanding of spirituality. This enables pupils to flourish on their individual spiritual journey.
- Partnerships with the church and parish are deeply embedded. This enhances collective worship through rich, meaningful, and creative opportunities for reflection.
- Through the daily outworking of the vision, adults and pupils enable a welcoming and inclusive culture of kindness, love and respect. Pupils are celebrated as unique and special individuals and supported in their wellbeing and holistic development.
- The vision drives an active culture of justice and responsibility towards others and the environment. This enables pupils to support positive change in their school and wider community.

Development Points

- Develop curriculum planning to enable pupils to study religious education (RE) through different learning approaches in the classroom. This is to support pupils to deepen their subject knowledge and skills.

Inspection Findings

Vision and Leadership

The Christian vision underpins and supports the school community it serves. There is a strong shared understanding of the vision, which enables its daily outworking to love and care for one another. Staff and governors lead by example and with integrity. This creates the conditions for pupils and staff to flourish in their learning and development. Through regular evaluation, leaders, including governors, ensure the vision remains pertinent to the context and needs of the community it serves. A new vision was developed to highlight loving one's neighbour, through kindness and service to others. For example, the strategic decision to respond to the needs of the community, resulted in planning a local lending library outside school. There are strong partnerships with the diocese and Aln Schools Alliance, through local schools coming together to share best practice. This provides training opportunities for staff in teaching, learning and assessment. It additionally enhances the quality of experiences for pupils to thrive in their learning, through wider music and sporting activities.

Vision and Curriculum

Spiritual development is embedded as a golden thread across the curriculum, to support pupils to thrive on their spiritual journey. This results from a strong shared understanding of spirituality, through 'mirror, window, door and candle moments'. How adults and pupils understand themselves, relate well to others, appreciate beauty in the world, and reflect on the deeper meaning of life. There is a focus on creativity and outdoor learning, to engage in the awe and wonder of the natural environment. Pupils develop reflective and interactive art installations and think about big questions across subject disciplines. Dedicated time for spiritual reflection at the close of each week enables pupils to reflect on these special moments and journal their thoughts. Targeted interventions are in place to help those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Tailored strategies including extra-curricular opportunities, such as dance and drama workshops, support pupils to flourish and grow in wisdom and knowledge.

Worship and Spirituality

Collective worship is at the heart of school life. This special time is deeply valued and respected by pupils, staff, parents, and carers. In the lighting of the candle, pupils and staff reflect upon the vision to help, support and care for others. Values of respect, kindness and service underpin worship and give focus for reflection. Consequently, pupils consider their behaviour towards others and are inspired to act upon their learning. For example, by helping each other with challenging tasks in lessons. Pupils are able to explore faith, find joy and develop their spiritual growth, through song, drama, art and music. These inclusive, creative activities are provided by a local Christian charity, within worship and in time spent in school reflection spaces. The strong partnership with St Michael's and All Angels Church, enables the school and parish to journey together in faith, through joint opportunities to worship and pray together in school and in church. This enhances their spiritual growth. In annotating and discussing Bibles donated by the congregation, pupils reflect on how messages from Jesus can shape their lives, through acts of kindness. Moreover, during school retreats, they continue their spiritual journey, learning about local saints Cuthbert and Aidan. This enables pupils to learn from the lives of others. There are planned visits to a range of churches and access to a Christian youth group. This supports pupils to view the richness and diversity of Christian worship.

Vision and School Culture

Felton is a happy and inclusive school. Pupils, staff, parents, and carers are welcomed and supported as unique and special individuals, through positive relationships. The buddy system, kindness ambassadors and Good Samaritan award support pupils to live out and celebrate the vision. The vision driven, restorative behaviour policy encourages pupils to be kind, respectful and to serve others. This can be seen in action when they organise a weekly one mile walk with parents, carers and governors, to help the community. Pupils are

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supported to develop resilience and self-confidence, through a wide variety of sporting activities. Wellbeing is central to provision, with a number of strategies in place to support adults and pupils. Pupils discuss the positive impact of wellbeing spaces and the opportunity to engage with the outdoor environment. Staff feel well supported by leaders and enjoy sharing their talents with pupils in wider enrichment activities. A dedicated governor wellbeing champion monitors the impact of interventions. This ensures further development of strategies is targeted and reactive, to meet the changing needs of the school community.

Religious Education

The RE curriculum supports pupils to love thy neighbour, through developing key knowledge of Christianity and a range of religions and worldviews. RE is treated as a core subject and is well resourced. The curriculum is challenging and logically sequenced around enquiry questions, to enable pupils to develop their critical thinking skills and personal knowledge. Pupils enjoy RE. The curriculum brings learning to life, through planned opportunities for pupils to view authentic objects and participate in creative learning experiences. However, opportunities for pupils to study RE through different approaches are not developed. These include, interpreting the philosophy of religions and faiths and the diverse ways in which people practice their beliefs. Staff attend training from the diocese to further enhance the impact of the RE curriculum. Governors regularly evaluate the quality of the RE curriculum, through their monitoring schedule.

Vision, Justice and Responsibility

Staff, parents and carers are consulted about how the vision and culture of justice, equity and responsibility shapes their lives and the lives of others. As a result of feedback, pupils drive meaningful campaigns alongside a local action group. Projects such as the school library and participating in community lunches with the school choir, enable them to make positive changes for others. Pupils choose to support a pupil in Rwanda with their education, through a local Christian charity. This teaches them about the importance of care and responsibility to others. Pupils learn about caring for God's world, by working in partnership with the parish to tackle climate change. Projects such as climate action plan development and tree planting enable pupils to have a deep understanding of issues and their responsibility to protect the world for future generations.

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National Society for Education
Church of England & Church in Wales

Methodist Schools

Information

Address	Mouldshaugh Lane, Felton, Morpeth NE65 9PY		
Date	27 March 2026	URN	122273
Type of school	Voluntary controlled	No. of pupils	99
Diocese	Newcastle		
Headteacher	Emma Lucas		
Chair of Governors	Steven Johnson		
Inspector	Katherine Humpleby		